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Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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Agenda item 5
Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including coordination matters

Submission by France, Japan, South Africa and Uganda

Draft resolution 25/6: International guidelines on urban and territorial planning

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 24/3 of 19 April 2013 on inclusive and sustainable urban planning and elaboration of international guidelines on urban and territorial planning, in which the Council requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to initiate the elaboration of international guidelines on urban and territorial planning that would provide a non-binding global framework for use as appropriate in improving policies, plans and designs for more compact, socially inclusive, sustainable, better integrated and connected cities and territories and to present the draft guidelines to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session for approval,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director,[1] highlighting the progress in developing the international guidelines on urban and territorial planning,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/216 of 17 December 2012 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[2] and reaffirming its commitment to promoting an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements, including by supporting local authorities, increasing public awareness and enhancing the participation of urban residents, including the poor, in decision-making,

Acknowledging the coherence and complementarity between the international guidelines on access to basic services for all, adopted by its resolution 22/8 of 3 April 2009, the international guidelines on decentralization and the strengthening of local authorities, adopted by its resolution 21/3 of 20 April 2007, and the international guidelines on urban and territorial planning,

Taking note of the note by the secretariat entitled "International guidelines on urban and territorial planning: towards a compendium of inspiring practices",[3] and noting lessons learned from diverse contexts and planning scales that have informed the development of the international guidelines on urban and territorial planning,

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[1] HSP/GC/25/2/Add.6.

[2] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

[3] HSP/GC/25/INF.7.

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Noting with appreciation the financial contribution of the Governments of France and Japan to support the process of consultation and drafting of the international guidelines on urban and territorial planning,

Expressing appreciation for the leading role of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the contribution of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the regional offices of the Programme, experts nominated by member States and international associations of local authorities, which have contributed through an inclusive consultative process of drafting and developing the international guidelines on urban and territorial planning,

1. *Approves* the international guidelines on urban and territorial planning set out in the annex to the report of the Executive Director[1] as a valuable guide that may be used towards the achievement of sustainable development;

2. *Encourages* member States, according to their circumstances, needs and priorities and as appropriate, to consider urban and territorial planning principles outlined in the guidelines while developing, reviewing and implementing their national urban policies and urban and territorial planning frameworks;

3. *Also encourages* member States to continue to engage with local authorities and other stakeholders, including from civil society, towards the promotion and further refinement of their urban and territorial planning principles;

4. *Calls upon* international financial institutions and development agencies, and requests the Executive Director, within the strategic plan and biennial work programme, to assist interested member States in using and adapting the guidelines to their territorial and national contexts, where appropriate, and further developing tools and monitoring indicators as part of their support for the implementation of the guidelines;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to develop partnerships with other United Nations bodies, regional economic commissions, development banks, member States, local authorities and their associations, relevant international professional associations and non-governmental organizations and other Habitat Agenda partners, to support the adaptation and use of the guidelines to local, national and regional circumstances, including through capacity and tool development;

6. *Encourages* member States and partners to support the future work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with all levels of government on urban and territorial planning, especially in promoting the use of the guidelines on urban and territorial planning;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director, in close consultation with member States and other relevant stakeholders, to report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session.